



Urban District of Horbury.

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TOGETHER WITH THE

REPORT

OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

FOR THE YEAR 1919.



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Urban District Council of Horbury.

Chairman of the Council :
COUNCILLOR JOSHUA HARR0P.

Vice-Chairman :
COUNCILLOR E. L. QUARMBY.

Public Health Committee.

Chairman :
COUNCILLOR T. H. HOLLAND.

Members :
COUNCILLOR J. BARRACLOUGH,
„ S. R. COCKER,
„ J. HARROP,
„ F. HAMPSHIRE,
„ W. W. HARTLEY,
„ E. L. QUARMBY,
„ R. SUTCLIFFE,
„ G. THORNTON,
„ W. TETLEY,
„ J. P. WILSON.

Representative on the Wakefield and District
Smallpox Hospital Committee :
COUNCILLOR R. SUTCLIFFE.

Medical Officer of Health :
W. SIM. GARDEN, B.Ch., M.D.

Sanitary Inspector and Superintendent of Scavenging :
JOHN H. HORSFALL, C.R.S.I.

Veterinary Inspector :
JOHN McLEAN, M.R.C.V.S.

Health Visitor and School Nurse :
NURSE E. TINSLEY.

Matron, Isolation Hospital :
Miss E. DICKENSON.

Statistical Summary.

Situation. Latitude 52.2, N. ; Longitude 1.3, W.

Elevation. 89.249 Feet.

Area of District. 1,280 acres.

Number of Inhabited Houses. 1,739 (Census 1911).

Number of Inhabited Houses. 1,930 (1919).

Population. 7,509 (Census 1911).

Population (Civil) for Death-rate. 7,614 Registrar General's

Population for Birth-rate. 7,932 Estimate for 1919.

Birth-rate. 18.1 per 1,000 of the population.

Death-rate (Uncorrected) 15.1 per 1,000 of the population.

Death-rate (Corrected) 17.2 per 1,000 of the population.

Zymotic Death-rate .65 per 1,000 of the population.

Phthisis Death-rate .52 per 1,000 of the population.

Infantile Death-rate 131.9 per 1,000 Births Registered.

Rainfall. 27.56 inches.

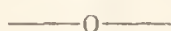
Urban District of Horbury.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1919.



TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting for your consideration my ELEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the district, together with the efforts of your Sanitary Staff to prevent the spread of disease and to improve the condition of the Township from a Public Health and Sanitary point of view.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DISTRICT.

Horbury is a compact Urban District of 1,280 acres, situated on the left bank of the Calder, some three miles above Wakefield. The maximum elevation is 249 feet and the minimum 89 feet. The district is bounded on the north-west by the Borough of Ossett, and elsewhere is surrounded by the Wakefield Rural District.

The Wakefield and Huddersfield Main Road traverses Horbury from east to west, and the district is well served by other roads. The Wakefield and District Light Railway Company run a good service of cars through the town from Wakefield to Ossett. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway has two Stations in the district, and it is here that the Barnsley Branch joins the main line. Traffic by water is also carried on by means of the Calder and Hebble Navigation.

POPULATION.

The disturbance of the population of the Country brought about by the war rendered it very difficult to arrive at a correct estimate of the population of any district. The matter has, however, been again taken in hand by the Registrar General, who estimates the Civil Population of Horbury, for 1919, at 7,614 for Death-rate, and 7,932 for Birth-rate.

The following figures may be of interest as showing the growth of the Township during the last 50 years :—

Census.	Population.	Increase.	Percentage of Increase.	Persons per inhabited house.
1871	3,977	731	22.2%	—
1881	5,050	1,073	27.0%	5.00
1891	5,673	627	12.4%	4.81
1901	6,736	1,063	18.7%	4.59
1911	7,509	773	11.3%	4.22

There may be said to be three principle aggregations of population, although these are practically contiguous, viz. (1) The central and the older portion of Horbury, pleasantly situated on the crest of the hill, and extending down the slope on the South-East to (2) Horbury Junction, with its Iron Works and Railway Waggon Works and its growing artizan population. (3) On the other slope of the hill, to the South-west of Horbury, there is a bold escarpment, at the foot of which is Horbury Bridge, and here are situated most of the Woollen Mills, with the Oil Mills and Dye-works.

CHIEF OCCUPATIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

The industries of the district are varied including Woollen and Worsted Manufactories, Iron Works, Railway Waggon and Tank Works, Paper Works, Oil Works, Dye Works, Carpet Making and Rag Sorting, Leather Work and Athletic Outfit making.

In addition to these works a good many of the male population are employed in the Coal Mines in the surrounding districts.

The Industries of Horbury also find employment for a good number of people from outside the district.

STREETS.

The streets in the older portion of Horbury are narrow and uneven. In the newer parts of the district the streets are of Regulation width. A large number of the side streets are however improperly made up, and are neither properly paved, drained or channelled, consequently the condition of many of these streets, especially in wet weather, is very unsatisfactory.

An outstanding feature of Horbury is the condition of the common yards and courts, very few of which have surfaces of impervious material properly graded and channelled to surface water gullies.

The state of these yards varies with the weather conditions. In wet weather they may be likened to quagmires, while in dry weather the inconvenience from dust must be considerable. Making up yard surfaces with ashes and like materials cannot be regarded as satisfactory, as in wet weather such material works up and is washed away. I trust the Council will take up the question of the proper making up of streets and common yards, and that in the near future many improvements will be made in this direction.

WATER SUPPLY.

The district obtains its water supply from the Dewsbury and Batley Corporations, which is stored in the reservoir at Foxroyd, Thornhill. There is not, however, a separate service reservoir for Horbury. This is at times a source of trouble to the district, and the Council have under consideration at the present time the question of a separate reservoir for Horbury, which is greatly needed. The quality of the Water is generally good. It is not plumbo-solvent. No cases of lead poisoning have been reported.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

The Sewage of the district is collected by the Sewerage system laid down in 1892—1894, which was extensively enlarged in 1913, and discharges at the outfall works on the banks of the river Calder, being collected in two parts, viz., that from the eastern portion of the district flows by gravitation to the precipitation tanks, while that from the western portion flows to a large tank Sewer near the works, and thence to a sewage well from which it is pumped to the equalising tanks.

From the equalising tanks by gravitation through the precipitation tanks to the pump well, from whence it is pumped on to the percolating filters, again gravitating to the humas tanks and discharging into the river Calder.

For the more efficient ventilation of the Sewers upcast vent shafts have been fixed in various parts of the district.

SANITARY CONVENIENCES.

The privy and privy midden is still a common form of convenience in the district. Prior to the war, each year saw a marked decrease in the numbers of these foul and insanitary places, fresh water closets and dust bins being provided in lieu thereof.

The scarcity and high price of materials together with the difficulty of procuring labour during the war retarded progress in this important work. As stated in previous reports, I am still of the opinion that a system which involves the retention of decaying animal, vegetable and excrementitious matter—in many cases in close proximity to dwelling houses—is neither desirable nor sanitary, and however structurally, is detrimental to public health. I trust that during the coming year, work in connection with the abolition of this form of convenience will be pressed forward.

A summary of work carried out under this head will be found in the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

SCAVENGING.

The Scavenging of the district is carried out by the Council's own workmen and teams under the direct supervision of the Sanitary Inspector, and has during the year been carried out in an efficient and regular manner.

The Midden and Ashpit refuse is collected into carts, sheeted over with linen covers and disposed of to the Council's Tip at Addington.

During the year the Council have acquired the quarry adjoining the Tip for the purpose of continuing the tipping of domestic refuse.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

Particulars of the work carried out under this head will be found in the report of the Sanitary Inspector attached hereto.

BYE-LAWS AND ADOPTIVE ACTS IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT.

BYE-LAWS.

New Streets and Buildings.

Nuisances.

Slaughter-houses.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Regulations.

ACTS.

Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889.

Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890.

The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890.

(Parts III. and IV.)

The Private Street Work Act, 1892.

The Notification of Births Act, 1907.

The Public Health Act Amendment Act, 1907.

(Parts II. III. IV. V. VI. and IX.)

SCHOOLS.

There are three Day Schools in Horbury, viz., Northfield Council School, for Boys, Girls and Infants; The Horbury National School, Church Street, Boys, Girls and Infants; Horbury Bridge Church School, Mixed and Infants. All the schools are provided with town's water, and the conveniences in connection therewith are on the water carriage system.

MILK SUPPLY.

The Milk supply of the district is, with three exceptions, produced and retailed by Cowkeepers within the district, no milk whatever being brought in by rail. The supply of Milk during the year has been well maintained, no complaints being received of any shortage.

The Cowsheds situate in the district have, during the year, been regularly inspected, and on two occasions the whole of the Dairy Cows kept therein have been carefully examined by the Veterinary Inspector appointed by the Council, whose report is given below.

1, Upper South Street,
Dewsbury,
Dec. 31st, 1919.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
HORBURY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

On two occasions during 1919 I have visited, along with your Sanitary Inspector Mr. Horsfall, the whole of the Cowsheds in your district, and made an examination of the Dairy Cows kept therein and noted the condition of the Udder of each animal. I found them all in fair good condition, and in no case was there Tubercular Disease of the Udder. First Inspection, 27th June, 1919, seventy-four Cows examined. Second Inspection, 4th December, 1919, eighty-one Cows examined. I am pleased to note that several improvements have been carried out at several of the Cowsheds since my last inspection.

There are two Mistals in the district in very bad condition, and hope that on my next visit the improvements necessary will have been attended to.

I remain,

Yours respectfully,

JOHN McLEAN, M.R.C.V.S.

OTHER FOODS.

The Slaughter-houses of the district, seven in number have been regularly visited and supervised by the Sanitary Inspector, and the carcasses and offals of the animals slaughtered therein examined.

No seizures have been made during the year, but a quantity of meat, etc., diseased and unfit for human consumption was surrendered upon the Inspector bringing the conditions to the notice of the owners.

Particulars of the articles surrendered are set out in the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

The Slaughter-houses are now, with one exception, structurally in fair condition and are maintained in a clearly state.

There are five Bakehouses in the district which are maintained in a clean and orderly condition, the bread and confectionery made and sold being generally of good quality.

There are nine premises where Fried Fish and Chipped Potatoes are prepared and sold. These premises are readily located by the effluvium emitted. The majority of the premises are fitted with the modern cooking ranges, and as a whole are maintained in a clean condition, while the food prepared is of good quality. No complaints have been received regarding these businesses.

HOUSING ACCOMMODATION.

There is approximately some 1,930 occupied houses in the district at the present time. The greater portion of the old buildings are constructed of stone, while the newer buildings are largely of brick. In the older portion of Horbury numbers of the houses are badly situated, being irregularly grouped in yards and courts. The dwellings of more recent date are provided with gardens or small plots of land.

At the present time there is an acute shortage of suitable houses in the district. This has been brought about by the stoppage of house building during the war. For many years prior to 1915 the number of houses erected per year averaged 33. During the past five years 1915—1919 only 19 houses have been erected, an average of 3.8 per year. There

is no question that a large number of houses are urgently needed in the district, and complaints are general as to people being unable to obtain suitable houses. With the extension of the various works in the district, the situation is aggravated as numbers of the people employed at the works in question are compelled to reside outside the area, who, if houses were obtainable, would no doubt reside in the district. The Council are fully alive to the situation and are doing all possible to to relieve the shortage. Work has already been commenced laying out the site, acquired by the Council, of 10 acres, 1 rood, 36 perches, situate in Northfield Lane, for the building of 84 Parlour and 43 Scullery houses, and are also negotiating for further sites.

Little work has been done during the year under review under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, owing to the high prices and scarcity of materials and labour.

19 houses have been inspected, particulars of which will be found in the report of the Sanitary Inspector. I trust that during the coming year increased progress will be made with this important and valuable work.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACTS.

Some 36 premises in the district are classed as Factories, the number of Workshops being 31, which have during the year been regularly inspected. Two Bakeries and one Boot Repairing premises are classed amongst the factories. The following tables give a summary of the administrative work carried out under the Factory and Workshops Acts.

1.—INSPECTION.

Premises	Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.	Prosecu- tions.
Factories (including Factory Laundries)			
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries			
Workplaces (other than Outworkers ... 40	4	0	
premises included in part 3 of this report			
Total	40	4	0

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.		Referred to H.M. Inspector	Number of Prosecutions
	Found	Remedied		
<i>Nuisances under Public Health Acts:—</i>				
Want of Cleanliness ... 1	1			0
Want of Ventilation ...				
Overcrowding				
Want of Drainage of Floors ...				
Other Nuisances 1	1			0
Insufficient ... 2	in hand	2		0
Sanitary Unsuitable or Accommodation Defective ... 4	2			0
Not separate for sexes				
Total	8	4	2	0

OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	Number.
Matters Notified to H. M. Inspector	0
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshops Acts (S. 5, 1901)	Notified by H.M. Inspector 8 Reports (of Action taken) sent to H.M. Insp. 8

VITAL STATISTICS.

DEATHS.

The number of Deaths registered in Horbury during 1919 was 115 (49 males and 66 females) which is equivalent to a Death-rate (Uncorrected) of 15.06 per 1,000 of the population.

Of this number, 3 of the deaths registered were non-residents, that is, persons who were only resident temporarily in the district, therefore such deaths are transferred to the district of which such persons are permanent residents, and for statistical purposes are not calculated for in the district in which the death occurred.

Information was likewise received of the Deaths of 19 Horbury residents in other districts. This brings the total number of Deaths of Horbury residents during 1919 to 131 (52 males and 79 females), which calculated upon the estimated population of 7,614 gives a *CORRECTED Death-rate* of 17.2 per 1,000 of the population.

The Death-rates for the Country are:—

England and Wales	...	...	13.8
Great Towns (96)	...	...	13.8
Smaller Towns (148)	...	...	12.6
London	...	...	13.4

The three non-residents were residents of Wakefield, York and Bretton West.

The deaths of Horbury Residents outside the district occurred at:—

Clayton Hospital, Wakefield	...	3
Infirmery, Wakefield (W.)	...	7
Asylum, Wakefield	...	2
Nursing Home, Wakefield	...	2
Leeds Infirmery	...	3
Asylum, Menston	...	1
Dewsbury	...	1

BIRTHS.

The number of Births registered during the year was 142. Information has been received of two births to Horbury residents outside the district, which brings the total Births of the district to 144 (82 males and 62 females), which is equal to a *BIRTH-RATE* of 18.1 per 1,000 of the population. Number of illegitimate Births 7.

A comparison with the Birth-rate of the Country is:—

England and Wales	...	...	18.5
Great Towns (96)	...	...	19.0
Small Towns (148)	...	...	18.3
London	...	...	18.3

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The number of deaths registered during 1919 of Infants under 1 year was 19 (9 males and 10 females). This gives an Infant Death-rate of 131.9 per 1,000 births registered.

Of this number three were premature births, six pneumonia, four gastro intestinal disturbance, three meningitis, two inaition, one congenital heart disease.

This Death-rate amongst Infants is very high, and I think we all agree that every effort should be made to reduce it.

Much might be accomplished by instructing the mother in regard to feeding, clothing and general hygiene of the child, also by teaching expectant mothers how to guard their own health.

It has been suggested that there is need of an Ante-natal Clinic in this district for this purpose.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS.

The periodic inspection of the children attending the schools in the Township are made by the County Medical Inspectors appointed for that purpose.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

77 cases have during the year been notified under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act, viz.: Scarlet Fever 13, Diphtheria 56, Enteric Fever 3, Erysipelas 2, Puerperal Fever 2, Malaria 1.

The Zymotic sickness rate is equal to 10.1 per 1,000 of the population.

Five deaths occurred from Infectious Disease, which is equal to a Zymotic Death-rate of .65 per 1,000 of the population, and a fatality rate of 6.7 per cent of the total cases notified.

71 of the cases notified were removed to the Council's Isolation Hospital for treatment, viz.: Diphtheria 54, Scarlet Fever 12, Enteric Fever 3, Puerperal Fever 1, Erysipelas 1, being in a proportion of 92.2 per cent. of the total cases notified.

The Zymotic Rates for the whole Country are:—

England and Wales	...	...	0.34
96 Great Towns	...	...	0.39
148 Smaller Towns	...	...	0.34
London	...	...	0.35

During the year, the Council had under consideration the erection of a new Administrative Block at the Isolation Hospital. During the latter part of the year, Dr. Hutchinson, Inspector to the Ministry of Health, visited the Hospital and conferred with the Council upon the matter. The Ministry of Health later sanctioned a loan for the work proposed, and plans, etc., are now being prepared with a view to the erection of Administrative Block, and the conversion of present administrative buildings into Laundry, Mortuary and Disinfecting Room, being proceeded with at an early date.

TUBERCULOSIS.

14 cases of Tuberculosis have been notified during the year under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1912, 9 Pulmonary Tuberculosis (5 Males and 4 Females), and 5 from other Tubercular Diseases.

Eight deaths occurred from Tuberculosis (2 Males and 6 Females), which is 6.1% of the total registered, and a rate of 1.0 per 1,000 of the population.

I have to thank Dr. Kaye and Dr. Sutherland for the valuable assistance rendered during the year.

In conclusion, I wish to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for the kindness and courtesy extended to me, and also to the Sanitary Inspector for services so willingly rendered.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

W. SIM GARDEN,

Medical Officer of Health.

22nd May, 1920.

The following information is furnished to the County Medical Officer, at his request.

Water Supply—

Any developments during 1919?—No.

Any insufficiency, and where?—No.

Any action in regard to unsatisfactory quality, and where?
—No complaints.

Drainage and Sewerage—

Any developments during 1919?—No.

Developments still needed as to (a) Want of sewers—

(b) Improvement of defective sewers—

New Sewer, Millfield Road, held up owing to war.

Are there any sink wastes still needing disconnection?—

Very few.

Closet Accommodation—

No. of Privies with open middens.—45.

No. of Pail or Tub Closets.—0.

No. of Privies with covered middens.—564.

No. of Water Closets.—941.

No. of Waste-water Closets.—0.

No. of Privies re-constructed during 1919—(a) as w.c's—5.
(b) other—0.

No. of *additional* Closets provided for old property in
1919—(a) w.c's—0. (b) other—0.

No. of Closets constructed in 1919 for new houses (a) w.c's
—2. (b) other—0.

Scavenging—

Any change during 1919?—No.

How is refuse disposed of? No. of loads to (a) Destructor
None. (b) Tips—3,167. (c) Farmers—461. Total annual
cost.—£770 2s. 11d. year.

Is there any inadequacy, and where?—None. Ended 31st
March, 1919.

Nuisance Inspections—

Total No. of Inspections made in 1919.—830.

Informal Notices served.—36. Complied with.—36.

Statutory Notices served.—1. Complied with.—1.

Total No. of Nuisances in hand at close of 1918.—4.

At close of 1919.—9.

Total No. of Nuisances reported during 1919.—99.

Abated during 1919.—94.

Total No. of Summonses or other legal proceedings.—None.

Regulated Buildings, Trades, &c.—

Common Lodging Houses.—None in District.

Houses let in Lodgings.—None in District.

Canal Boats.—Not a Registration District.

Knackers Yards.—None in District.

Tents, Vans and Sheds.—None.

Offensive Trades.—No regular Businesses carried on.

Have the Council declared any other processes to be offensive trades, *e.g.*, Fish-frying, Maggot-breeding, etc.?—Fish-frying.

Schools—

No. of Visits to Schools.—Three.

Action taken.—Inspection, Vaccination of children.

Milk Supply—

No. of samples taken by Officers of S.A. for analysis under F. and D. Acts.—None. No. adulterated.—None.

No. of samples taken by Officers of S.A. for bacteriological examination.—None.

What arrangement for Veterinary Inspection of dairy cows?—Veterinary Inspection twice yearly.

Any instance of disease attributed to milk in 1919?—No.

No. of Cowkeepers in district.—8. No. Registered.—8.

No. of Milk Sellers who are also Cowkeepers.—8.

No. who are Purveyors only.—2. Total No. Regt'd.—10.

Total No. of Cowsheds.—12. No. of Inspections in 1919.—40. General Condition.—Fair.

Approx. No. of Milch Cows in District.—81.

Any insufficiency in Milk Supply.—No.

Legal proceedings under D.C.M. Orders.—None.

Any Inspection or other action by Districts to which Milk is sent?—None sent out of District.

Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1919. Any action?—Supply granted in necessitous cases.

Other Foods—

No. of samples (other than Milk) taken by Officer of S.A. for examination under the Foods and Drugs Acts.—None.
No. adulterated.—None.

No. of seizures of unsound food.—None. Kind and quantity some surrendered. No. of Prosecutions.—None.

No. of Slaughter houses.— No. Registered.—7.
No. Licensed.—7. Kind and Condition.—Fairly satisfactory

No. of Prosecutions (a) Food and Drugs.—None.
(b) Unsound Food.—None. (c) re Slaughter Houses.—None.

No. of Bakehouses.—6. Is there a Public Abattoir?—No.

Factories and Workshops—

Any Smoke nuisance, and where?—No great amount.

No. of Smoke observations taken.—10. No. of Cautions.—
No. Legal Notices.—None. Summonses.—None.

Adoptive Acts—

Acts adopted during 1919.—None

Byelaws and Regulations—

Are any other Byelaws needed?—

Infectious and other Diseases—

What diseases have been specially prevalent in 1919?—
Diphtheria.

Any diseases specially added to notifiable list?—No.

Any influences threatening the health of the District?—
None.

Special Reports and Investigations.—

None.

Tuberculosis—Procedure after notification—

- (1) Inspection of patient's home and workshop.—Yes. (2) Examination for contacts.— (3) Disinfection.—Yes. (4) Distribution of advice leaflets.—Yes. (5) Action re spitting (6) Shelters provided.—Yes. (7) Is sputum examined? Yes. (8) Tuberculosis Dispensaries.—Any suggestions. No.

Bacteriology—

Is County Laboratory utilized?—Yes. Any suggestions.—No.

Infant Mortality—

What organised effort to control it?—Health Visitor and School Nurse; Maternity Nurse.

Any Voluntary Centres for Child or Mother Welfare?—Child Welfare and Maternity Centre.

Causes of any excessive Infant Mortality in 1919.—

Any suggestions will be welcomed regarding Maternity Centres and Infant Welfare Schemes.—Anti-Natal Clinic should be established in conjunction with Child Welfare Centre, under the direct supervision of the Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics—

Births during 1919.—Males 82, Females 62. Total 144.

No. illegitimate included in above.—7. No. of Still Births (not included)—

Deaths during 1919—(1) Gross Deaths, i.e., Total actually registered in the District without any correction.—115.

(2) Nett Deaths on which the rates are calculated—Males 52, Females 79—131.

No. of uncertified deaths (included above.—None.

Mortuaries—

What Mortuary accommodation.—(a) for accidents—None. (b) for infectious cases other than at Hospital.—None.

Sanitary Staff—

What is the present Annual Salary of the M.O.H.?—

Name of Sanitary Inspector—John Hy. Horsfall. Annual Salary as Inspector—£230. Other appointments held—Scavenging Superintendent, etc. Salary for such other appointments.—£10.

Any Assistants?—No. Is Staff sufficient.—

Supplementary Remarks as to Sanitary requirements of District, suggestions of M.O.H., and extended notes from any of the foregoing entries—

Housing—

Houses inspected under the Act and regulations in 1919—22

Houses found satisfactory on inspection.—12.

Houses found not reasonably fit for human habitation.—7.

Houses for which notices were given to execute works.—7.

Other Action in regard to Housing—

Total number of houses in district.—1,930.

Number of working-class houses.—approx. No. 1,650.

Any scarcity of houses, if so, where?—Demand for houses in all parts of the district.

Any overcrowding of persons in houses, and where?—Isolated cases.

No. of cases of overcrowding dealt with during 1919.—Two.

Any special activity in house building, and where?—None.

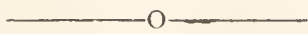
Number of new Houses built during 1919 by private enterprise. (a) Working-class dwellings.—Two. (b) Other.—None.

State-aided Housing Schemes—

Has Scheme been submitted as required by Section 1 of 1919 Act.—Yes. Estimated need for 350. Scheme for 127 houses.

Name and Address of Officer designated to make inspections under Article II. of Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910.—John Hy. Horsfall, Town Hall, Horbury.

Urban District of Horbury.

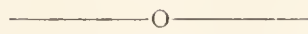


ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1919.



JOHN H. HORSFALL, C.R.S.I.

Sanitary Inspector and Superintendent of Scavenging.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit for your information the Annual Report of the Sanitary work, carried on under my supervision, for the abatement of Nuisances, etc., during the year 1919. This constitutes my SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT. SUMMARY OF INSPECTOR'S WORK.

During the year 830 visits and inspections have been made for the investigation and suppression of nuisances and the inspection of work in connection with the abatement of nuisances. The total number of nuisances reported was 99. The following summary shows the nature and amount of work carried out under the Housing Town Planning Act, 1909.

Choked Drains cleared	...	...	...	33
Drains amended	...	...	...	4
Drains reconstructed	...	...	...	4
Cellars drained	...	...	...	8
Waste Pipes trapped off	...	...	...	2
Rainwater Pipes disconnected	...	...	...	2
Rainwater Pipes and Eaves Gutters repaired or renewed	...	...	...	7
Slop Sinks repaired	...	...	...	3
New Slop Sinks provided	...	...	...	1
W. C. Pedestals renewed	...	...	...	2
W. C. Flushing apparatus repaired	...	...	...	3
Dampness excluded	...	...	...	2
House Roofs repaired	...	...	...	2
Houses or parts cleansed	...	...	...	1
General repairs	...	...	...	13
Houses provided with W.C's in lieu of Privies	...	...	...	7
Privy apartments cleansed and limewashed	...	...	...	2
Dust Bins renewed	...	...	...	2
Foul Accumulations removed	...	...	...	1

During the year, 617 letters and other communications have been sent from the department, and 36 informal notices and one statutory notice have been served.

Nuisances on the Books at end of 1918 ...	4
Nuisances reported during 1919 ...	99
	<hr/> 103
Nuisances abated during 1919 ...	94
Nuisances on Books, Dec. 31st, 1919 ...	<hr/> 9

PRIVY MIDDENS.

In previous reports I have alluded to the dangers of the privy midden and the desirability of taking all measures possible for the abolition of this insanitary form of convenience.

Prior to the war, excellent progress was being made with this work, and each year saw a marked diminution in their numbers.

Owing to circumstances brought about by the war, little progress has been made during the year under review. Five Water Closets and five Dust Bins have been provided in connection with seven premises in lieu of five privies and five middens abolished.

In Horbury there are still some 313 Middens into which discharge 609 privies. A small number of the middens are uncovered, while others are foul and wet.

With these conditions there is need for increased activity in bringing about the conversion of these insanitary places to the more healthier conditions of the Water Carriage system. The Health Committee are fully alive to the fact that the privy midden is anything but ideal and are doing all possible to deal with the question.

The total number of Water Closets in use in the district at the present time is approximately 941.

SCAVENGING.

The Health Department is responsible for the removal and disposal of the domestic refuse of the district, which consists of the contents of Privy Middens, Dry Ashes places, Dust Bins, &c.

For Scavenging purposes, Horbury is divided into three districts, the work being carried out under my supervision, by the Council's own teams and employees.

The approximate number of receptacles, &c., cleansed by the Department is 609 privies, 313 middens, 76 dry ashes places, 660 dust bins, and 11 cesspools.

Privy middens are cleared about every 18 days, dust bins and dry ashes places weekly. Refuse from shops consisting of paper, cardboard, &c., is collected weekly. The method of disposal is by tipping; the bulk of the refuse being carted to the Council's tip at Addington. At certain periods of the year a quantity of privy midden refuse is carted to the land and used by farmers for manurial purposes. The site used for tipping at Addington being practically filled in, it became necessary for the Council to acquire another site for the disposal of the Township's refuse, and they were fortunate in being able to purchase the quarry and land adjoining the present tip where the refuse is now being tipped.

The quantity of Refuse removed by the Scavenging staff during the year amounts to a total of 3,867 loads, removed from 3,578 middens and dry ashes places, 5,634 privies, 36,223 dust bins, and 141 cesspools.

These loads were made up of 2,144 privy midden refuse, 1,042 dust bins refuse, 493 cesspools refuse, and 188 loads of shops refuse.

The refuse was disposed of as follows:—

To the tip at Addington	...	...	3,167 loads.
To the land (from middens and cesspools)	461	„	
Into sewers (liquid from cesspools)	239	„	

The total expenditure for Scavenging work for the financial year ending 31st March, 1919, was £770 2s. 11d. which includes wages, horse keep, materials, disinfectants, &c. During this period 3,293 loads of refuse was disposed of, at a cost of 4s. 8d. per load, or 1.84d. per house per week.

HOUSING TOWN PLANNING ACT.

Work in connection with house-to-house inspection has, during the war, been greatly retarded. As a result of the acute shortage of houses and high price of materials, little progress has been made under this head during the year. 19 houses have been inspected. Seven of the houses were found to have numerous defects, the remaining 12 having, very minor, or no defects.

The nuisances and defects found to be existing were as follows :—

Damp Walls and Floors	...	...	...	4
Defective Roofs	...	...	...	3
Insufficient Ventilation	...	...	...	6
Insufficient Lighting to Rooms	...	...	...	4
Defective Windows and Sashes	...	...	...	6
Defective Slop Sinks	...	...	...	3
Waste Pipes untrapped	...	...	...	4
No proper Food Pantry	...	...	...	5

Complete records of the inspections made under the Housing Regulations, with details of defects found and improvements carried out, are kept on the card index system.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There are 36 Factories and 31 Workshops in the district, viz :

Factories :—

Worsted Spinners and Woollen Manufacturers	6
Mungo Manufacturers	2
Railway Waggon Builders and Repairers	2
Iron Works	1
Papers Makers	1
Dye-Works	1
Oil Extracting	1
Athletic Goods Manufacturing	1
Joiners and Wheelwrights	7
Mechanical Engineers	2
Rug Weaving	1
Rag Mill	1
Letterpress Printers	2
Builder and Contractor	1
Boot Repairing	1
Bakeries	2
Food Preparing Premises	3
Leather Currier	1

Workshops :—

Rag Sorting	...	...	...	1
Athletic Goods Manufacturers	...	...	...	4
Dressmakers and Milliners	...	...	...	5
Boot Repairers	...	...	...	4
Plumbers	...	...	...	2
Bakers	...	...	...	3
Tailors	...	...	...	2
Blacksmiths	...	...	...	2
Painters	...	...	...	2
Laundry	...	...	...	1
Tin Plate and Copper Worker	...	...	...	1

Particulars of the inspections and defects dealt with will be found on page

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

There are seven private slaughter-houses in the district ; six being registered and one licensed.

During the year, 171 inspections have been made to the slaughter-houses while slaughtering was in progress, when the carcasses and offals of the following were examined :—

144 sheep. 190 beasts. 166 pigs.

No seizures were effected, but the following, which was found to be unfit for human consumption was surrendered and destroyed :—

349 lbs. of mutton. 52 lbs. of beef.

In addition to the above, a considerable quantity of frozen meat and other foods have been examined, and 112 lbs. of fish and 105 lbs. of imported butter, found to be unfit for human consumption was surrendered and destroyed.

COWSHEDS, DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS.

Practically the whole of the milk supply of Horbury is produced upon farms in the district ; only in three cases is milk brought in from outside the district, none whatever being brought in by rail.

There are 11 persons registered as Cow-keepers, Dairymen and Purveyors of milk, the number of Cowsheds in the district being 13. On two occasions during the year the Veterinary Inspector appointed by the Council has made an examination of all the dairy cattle in the district, and his report will be found included with that of the Medical Officer of Health.

The whole of the cowsheds in the district have been regularly inspected during the year. With three exceptions, the structural and sanitary condition of the cowsheds is satisfactory and they are generally kept in a cleanly and wholesome condition.

Three of the cowsheds, above-mentioned, are in a very unsatisfactory condition, but owing to circumstances arising out of the war the extensive alterations required were not pressed. Statutory notices have now again been served upon the occupiers to make their premises satisfactory and in accordance with the bye-laws and regulations, and at the time

of writing, negotiations between the owners, occupiers and myself were proceeding satisfactorily with the view to the necessary works being carried out.

It is the duty of the local authority to ensure that the public are supplied with pure and clean milk produced under hygienic conditions. To attain this, not only must cowsheds be clean, well lighted, ventilated and drained, but scrupulous cleanliness must be observed in everything connected with the production and manipulation of milk. The regular grooming of hind quarters and flanks of cows; cleansing of udders and washing of milkers hands; wearing of aprons and overalls by milkers, should be regarded as part of the daily routine work of cow-keepers.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

10 samples have been obtained in the district by the County Inspector and submitted for analysis to the County Analyst. The samples consisted of milk 4, rice 1, condensed milk 1, butter 1, baking powder 1, white pepper 1, snow buns 1. Eight of the samples submitted were certified by the Analyst to be genuine. The remaining two samples were certified as follows:--

Condensed Milk	Accepting the minimum of 3% of fat and 8.5% of solids not fat, this "condensed milk" represents a condensation of a 100 parts by measure of milk of a minimal quality to 69 parts by measure, and the County Analyst remarks on his certificate "Too small a concentration to warrant the description on label "CONDENSED MILK" of "PURE AND HIGH GRADE."	No action taken at present.
Milk	Milk Fat 3.20% Non Fatty 8.36% Solids Water 88.44% Therefore the sample consisted of:— Milk 98.4% Added Water 1.6%	Vendor cautioned by Legal Dept.

FRIED FISH SHOPS.

There are 10 premises in the district where the business of fish frying is carried on. The premises in question are kept under observation and periodical inspections made. The majority of the shops are provided with cooking ranges of modern type, which reduces nuisances, from effluvium given off during frying, to a minimum. No complaints have been received regarding these businesses.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

By Section 3 of the Canal Boats Act, 1884, it is the duty of every Urban Sanitary Authority within whose district a Canal or a portion of a Canal passes, to enforce within their district the provisions of the Canal Boats Acts, 1877 and 1884, and the Regulations made thereunder, and to submit to the Ministry of Health before the 21st day of January of each year a report upon the administration of such Acts, I herewith submit my report for the year 1919.

During the year numerous visits have been made by me to the Canal Banks, but no Boats were met with or inspected other than day doats, during these visits.

Since the outbreak of war the number of Boats passing through the district has greatly decreased, the bulk of the boats plying at the present time are Day Boats, i.e., Boats not used as dwellings which take cargoes of coal short distances.

Horbury is not a Registration District, the portion of the Canal within our area being about 600 yards and situate at the extreme boundary of the district. Inspection is always a difficult matter, as the boats do not usually stop on this portion of the Canal.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN H. HORSFALL,

Canal Boats Inspector.

Sanitary Inspector's Office,

Town Hall, Horbury.

6th January, 1920.

PETROLEUM ACTS.

There are six premises licensed by the Council for the storage and sale of Petroleum. The total quantity licensed to be stored is 1,460 gallons. The premises have been regularly inspected and each store complies with the Regulations.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year all practical and available means have been taken for preventing the spread of Infectious Disease.

Upon a case of Infectious Disease being notified, the case is at once removed to the Council's Isolation Hospital, if proper and efficient means of Isolation cannot be carried out at the home of the patient. The premises are at once disinfected, the method being by Formalin spraying and fumigation by Formic Aldehyde Vapour, the bedding and clothes being exposed to the vapour as much as possible.

Where Isolation is carried out at the home, instructions are given as to proper isolation, and disinfectants supplied.

The premises are also periodically visited to see that isolation is being maintained. After recovery, the premises are disinfected.

Premises where infectious disease has occurred are inspected and the sanitary condition ascertained, defects and nuisances are noted and steps taken to have same remedied.

The following is a summary of the disinfection work carried out by the department during 1919:—

Houses or parts disinfected on account of Diphtheria	...	56
„ „ „ „ Scarlet Fever	...	13
„ „ „ „ Erysipelas	...	1
„ „ „ „ Enteric Fever	...	3
„ „ „ „ Tubercular Disease	...	6
Other Diseases	...	3

During the year the Council have purchased a small Steam Disinfector which is to be fixed up at the Isolation Hospital whereby the efficient disinfection of clothing, bedding, etc., can be carried out.

In conclusion I express my appreciation for the kindly assistance, consideration and courtesy extended to me by the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee; also to the Medical Officer of Health for the kind assistance and support rendered to me in the discharge of my duties.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN H. HORSFALL,

Sanitary Inspector.

25th May, 1920.



